

comprising administering to the patient a composition comprising hepatocyte growth factor.

The Examiner has also requested that Applicants elect a species of the generic invention, which species are (A.) ischemic disease and (B.) arterial disease.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, claims 16-29, and further elect the species of (B.) Ischemic Disease. The elections are made with traverse.

Claims readable on the elected invention and elected species are claims 16-26 and 28-29.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kristi L. Rupert, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 45,702) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for a three (3) month extension of time for filing a reply in connection with the present application, and the required fee of \$920.00 is attached hereto

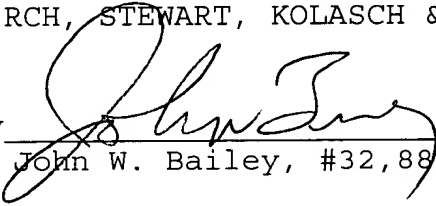
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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